

# Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/723,960

Examiner

Harold E. Dodds, Jr.

Applicant(s)

CRONIN ET AL.

Art Unit

2168

## -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to 4 May 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 50,51,53,55-66,68-78,80-91 and 93-97.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

### Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

Harold E. Dodds, Jr.  
Patent Examiner

### **REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE**

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The Examiner finds Applicants' amendments on pages 2-10 of the "Response to First Office Action after Second RCE" filed on 4 May 2006 and the remarks on page 11 of the "Response to First Office Action after Second RCE" concerning a method of researching and analyzing information contained in a plurality of documents belonging to a first database, searchable on a plurality of search fields and having a plurality of search field values persuasive as applied to claim 50. The combination of prior art from Rivette et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,499,026) and Paulsen, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,078,917) does not anticipate or render obvious amended independent claim 50. In particular, Rivette and Paulsen do not teach the limitation "filling out a high level of abstraction (HLA) framework form so as to form a plurality of HLA clusters".

2. The Examiner finds Applicants' amendments on pages 2-10 of the "Response to First Office Action after Second RCE" filed on 4 May 2006 and the remarks on page 11 of the "Response to First Office Action after Second RCE" concerning a method of researching and analyzing information contained in a plurality of documents belonging to a first database, searchable on a plurality of search fields and having a corresponding plurality of search field values persuasive as applied to claims 63, 75, and 87. The combination of prior art from Rivette et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,499,026) and Paulsen, Jr. et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,078,917) does not anticipate or render obvious amended independent claims 63, 75, and 87. In particular, Rivette and

Paulsen do not teach the limitation "presenting a high level of abstraction (HLA) framework form to a user".

### **CONCLUSION**

3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Harold E. Dodds, Jr. whose telephone number is (571)-272-4110. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:00 - 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tim T. Vo can be reached on (571)-272-3642. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2168


Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

*Harold E. Dodds, Jr.*

Harold E. Dodds, Jr.

Patent Examiner

June 26, 2006

  
GRETCHEN ROBINSON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER